Still another vital service industry is the telephone company which has been part of Heber City since 1900.

Charles Alexander was the manager of the first independent telephone company in Heber, and his wife, Lavisa, was the first operator. They set up the exchange in their home in October, 1900, and serviced 12 telephones, mostly to doctors and professional men. Later the office was moved to a building between the Alexander home and the home belonging to Ammon Van Wagoner. Orpha Fraughton became the operator and she was succeeded after her marriage by her sister, Stella.

Subscribers to the telephone service increased each year, a few at first and then rapidly. There were 13 subscribers in 1901 and 18 by 1902. The growth until 1907 was as follows: 1903, 40; 1904, 48; 1905, 76; 1906, 128 and 1907, 177.

By 1907 the telephone exchange was moved to the old bank building and occupied the upstairs floor. Subscribers continued to increase until by 1910 there were 156 telephones in the city and surrounding area. In

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1911, when the Heber system had 170 installations, the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co. purchased the independent company. The service gradually increased until there were 399 telephones installed by the beginning of World War II in 1941. During the war it was not possible to make new installations, and so 125 orders for new phones had accumulated by the end of hostilities. These applications had all been filled by December, 1946, but in the meantime there were another 125 applications for still more phones. In 1955 there were 1,230 telephone installations, 1,374 in 1956 and nearly 1600 by 1960.

Until 1938 all the telephones were the magneto type, operated by a hand crank. In 1938 all but four community lines were changed to more modern equipment and these four lines have subsequently been converted to modern service. p 176

Lewis Alexander succeeded his father as telephone manager and served until 1911 when he was followed by Sherrill Kimball. Mr. Kimball held the managership until 1914. Others were a Mr. Sullivan from 1914 to 1918; L. P. Vickers, 1918 to 1927; Tom Jones, 1927 to 1941 and Wesley C. Walton who has served since then.

There are now 14 operators, one chief operator, a service representative, a full time lineman, a part-time lineman and a custodian employed by the company in Heber. Six operators work during the day-time shift and in a day will handle some 11,000 local calls and 336 long distance calls, in addition to emergency work with the fire and police departments.

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Mary Elizabeth Kanady Greene, who had been trained by Dr. Ellis Shipp in Salt Lake City, was the first and only woman doctor to practice in Heber. She came to Heber in 1882 and for a few years was the only doctor in the county. She died of pneumonia in Heber in 1895.

For many years there was no hospital in Heber. On two different occasions Dr. H. Ray Hatch attempted to establish small hospitals. The first was in the home of Lavina Murdock, with Marie Erickson as head nurse. There were four or five beds available. Another attempt was at the home of Lewis Alexander, whose wife was a registered nurse. Dr. Hatch then moved from the county and the efforts went no further.

Finally in 1932 the Heber Hospital was begun by Doctors Bert and T. A. Dannenberg. Dr. Bert started in 1925, and Dr. T. A. joined in 1932. In 1956 the hospital was renamed the Nielson Memorial Hospital in honor of the late Dr. Karl O. Nielson who was responsible for many of the improvements and innovations at the institution.

Dentists who have practiced in Heber include D. B. Witt who worked in the Salt Lake Dental Clinic until he felt he had enough experience and then came to Heber; a Dr. Sessions, not formally educated as a dentist, but also a product of the Salt Lake Dental Clinic; a Dr. Sabin who practiced from about 1904 to 1908 and was the first dentist in the valley with a diploma; Dr. C. F. Wherritt, a brother of Dr. W. R. Wher-

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